

of Ways and Means, Saturday, March 7 :
MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE
I am here to represent in part the merchants of New
York, and in their name and on their behalf I desire
to thank you here at the outset for the very patient
and kind treatment you have extended to their repre-
sentatives, having shown them every disposition to hear them
in their sufferings and their wrongs.
I might appropriately commence my statement
reading to you the authority under which we ap-
pear, but inasmuch as our friends from Boston read be-